

together a team. The natural ally on that team was Senator PATTY MURRAY, a Democrat for the State of Washington and the lead Democrat on the HELP Committee and on the Appropriations Committee. We rounded out with two Democrats and two Republicans, the now-retired Senator Lamar Alexander who led the HELP Committee when PATTY MURRAY was ranking member, and vice versa.

We agreed on a common goal, the four of us: 5 percent real growth every year in the National Institutes of Health. In the first year working together, Senator BLUNT overdid it. He helped steer \$2 billion, or 7 percent, to the NIH.

I remember getting a phone call from Roy. It was a few weeks before Christmas. We were on break with our families, and it is uncommon for Senators to call one another under those circumstances. But he called me, and he said he had just spoken with the leaders from Barnes-Jewish Hospital, which is a major health and research institution in St. Louis. They were ecstatic about the care they were able to give their patients and research they were going to undertake because of this new level of funding.

Senator BLUNT said it was unlike any call he had ever received in his congressional career.

Then he said to me, "Durbin, we can't be one-hit wonders." And from there, we were off.

Since 2015, with the help of Senator MURRAY and others, through changes in the Presidency and through pretty divisive times, we succeeded on a bipartisan basis to keep steady, predictable funding for the National Institutes of Health as a bipartisan priority.

Over 7 years, we saw NIH funding increase by more than \$14 billion, a nearly 50-percent increase from where we started. These new investments are supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs nationwide in research institutions large and small. They are saving lives, and they will continue to do so for decades to come.

So I want to personally thank Roy BLUNT, the Senator from Missouri, for his leadership in funding this breakthrough medical research.

I also want to thank his staff for their wisdom and professionalism and calm demeanor. They consistently look for ways to work together for the common good.

Senator BLUNT honored his commitment to medical research and made a difference in America.

I said to him today as we were gathering for a tribute to the Capitol Police for defending us on January 6, I said, "Roy, the reason we all come here is to make a difference in this great nation that we live in. You have made that difference in medical research, and you will be remembered for it."

He has pursued our shared goal with decency, genuine curiosity, and a vision for the promise of medical discovery. There are people here in Amer-

ica today and around the world who are going to have better lives because of ROY BLUNT's commitment. That is a legacy which he can certainly be proud of.

Loretta and I wish him, his wife Abby, and his family all the best as they start this new chapter in life. I am sorry to see him go. I am losing a great friend and a great Senator.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions with respect to the Perez and Murphy nominations be withdrawn and that notwithstanding rule XXII, tomorrow at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Perez nomination and cloture on the Scott nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the Scott nomination, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Scott and Murphy nominations; and that at 5 p.m., the Senate vote on cloture on the Hopkins nomination and confirmation of the Blackwell nomination; further, that the cloture motions with respect to the Montgomery-Reeves and Douglas nominations ripen following disposition of the Hopkins nomination; and finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 1202, Juan Eduardo Sanchez, of Texas, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southwest Border Regional Commission; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Juan Eduardo Sanchez, of Texas, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southwest Border Regional Commission. (New Position)

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Sanchez nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1188, 1196 through 1199, and 1247 through 1252; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Chrissie C. Latimore, of South Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years; Peter D. Leary, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years; McLain J. Schneider, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years; Leigha Simonton, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years; David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years; Jaime E. Esparza, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas for the term of four years; Roger B. Handberg, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years; Alamdar S. Hamdani, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years; Markenzy Lapointe, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years; Terry J. Burgin, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years; and Glenn M. McNeill, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

##### MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision